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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES**

(covering its work during 1994)

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CHAPTER IX

AMERICAN SAMOA, ANGUILLA, BERMUDA, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, CAYMAN ISLANDS, GUAM, MONTSERRAT, TOKELAU***, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS, TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, PITCAIRN, ST. HELENA

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* A/49/150.

** This document contains chapter IX of the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly. The general introductory chapter will be issued under the symbol A/49/23 (Part I). Other chapters of the report will be issued under the symbol A/49/23 (Parts II-V and VII-VIII). The complete report will be issued subsequently as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23).

*** A separate chapter on Tokelau (chap. X) is set out in A/49/23 (Part VII).

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A. Introduction

1. At its 1429th meeting, on 15 February 1994, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1811), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to allocate the following 13 Territories for consideration by the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance: American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Pitcairn and St. Helena.

2. The present chapter contains an account of the Special Committee's consideration of the 13 Territories (see sect. B), as well as its recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session (see sect. D).

3. In its consideration of the questions, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 40/52 of 10 December 1993 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. By paragraph 10 of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Committee "to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination and independence, and in particular ... to continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence". The Committee also took into account relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the Territories.

4. The delegation of New Zealand, in its capacity as administering Power concerned and in accordance with established procedures, continued to participate in the work of the Special Committee in relation to Tokelau.

5. The delegations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, administering Powers concerned, did not participate in the Special Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration. 1/

B. Consideration by the Special Committee

6. The Special Committee considered the questions of the 13 Territories at its 1431st, 1432nd, 1437th and 1439th meetings, between 11 and 15 July 1994.

7. During its consideration of the questions, the Special Committee had before it the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the Territories (A/AC.109/1179-1183, 1185-1186, 1188-1190 and 1192-1193).

8. The Special Committee also had before it the reports of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance containing an account of its consideration of the Territories (A/AC.109/L.1813-L.1815).

9. The reports of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance were based on a thorough review by the Subcommittee of the political, economic and social conditions in each of the Territories in the light of information provided by the administering Powers under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations, and contained in statements of the representatives of an administering Power (New Zealand) and territorial Governments (Guam and Tokelau), who participated in the discussions.

10. At the 1431st meeting, on 11 July, the Rapporteur of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance introduced the reports of the Subcommittee on Pitcairn (A/AC.109/L.1813), St. Helena (A/AC.109/L.1814) and the 10 Territories (A/AC.109/L.1815) containing an account of the Subcommittee's consideration of the Territories (A/AC.109/PV.1431).

11. At the same meeting, the Special Committee granted a request for hearing to Ms. Judith L. Bourne, United Nations Association of the Virgin Islands, relating to the United States Virgin Islands. In respect of Guam, the Committee granted requests for hearing to Senator Don Parkinson, twenty-second Guam Legislature; Senator Marilyn Manibusan, twenty-first Guam Legislature; Mr. Ronald F. Rivera, Organization of People for Indigenous Rights; Mr. Ronald E. Teehan, Guam Landowners' Association; Mr. Tony Artero, on behalf of Guahan (Guam) Landowners United, and on his own behalf.

12. Statements were made by the above-mentioned petitioners at the 1431st and 1432nd meetings, on 11 July, as follows: 1431st meeting - Ms. Deborah Jackson, on behalf of the United Nations Association of the Virgin Islands; Senator Don Parkinson; Senator Marilyn Manibusan; and Mrs. Hope Cristobal, on behalf of the Organization of People for Indigenous Rights (A/AC.109/PV.1431); 1432nd meeting - Mr. Ronald Teehan, on behalf of the Guam Landowners' Association; Mrs. Marianne Rios, on behalf of Guahan (Guam) Landowners United; and Mr. Tony Artero (A/AC.109/PV.1432). At the 1432nd meeting, Mr. Artero replied to a question posed to him by the representative of Grenada (A/AC.109/PV.1432).

13. Statements in connection with the hearings were made by the representatives of Papua New Guinea and Mali at the 1431st meeting (A/AC.109/PV.1431) and by the representatives of Tunisia and Grenada, as well as by the Chairman, at the 1432nd meeting (A/AC.109/PV.1432).

14. At the 1431st meeting, on 11 July, with the Committee's consent, Ms. Lourdes Pangelinan, representative of the Governor of Guam, made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.1431). The representative of Tunisia made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.1431).

15. In accordance with a decision taken at the 1431st meeting, Mr. Carlyle Corbin, the representative of the Governor of the United States Virgin Islands, participated in the work of the Special Committee in its consideration of the question of the United States Virgin Islands and made a statement at the 1432nd meeting, on the same day (A/AC.109/PV.1432). Mr. Corbin also replied to questions posed to him by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and Trinidad and Tobago (A/AC.109/PV.1432). Statements concerning Mr. Corbin's status as participant were made by the representatives of Tunisia, Grenada and Sierra Leone, as well as by the Chairman (A/AC.109/PV.1432).

16. At its 1432nd meeting, on 11 July, the Special Committee adopted the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance

on Pitcairn (A/AC.109/L.1813) and approved the draft decision contained therein (A/AC.109/2000) (see para. 35).

17. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance on St. Helena (A/AC.109/L.1814) and approved the draft decision contained therein (A/AC.109/2001) (see para. 35).

18. Also at the same meeting, on the proposal of its Expanded Bureau, the Special Committee decided to suspend consideration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands until 1995 (see para. 32), bearing in mind that a plebiscite regarding the Compact of Free Association had been held by the Government of Palau on 9 November 1993.

19. Also at the 1432nd meeting, the representative of Tunisia, in his capacity as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, made a statement (A/AC.109/PV.1432).

20. At the same meeting, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago proposed the following oral amendments to the consolidated draft resolution, contained in document A/AC.109/L.1815, paragraph 7:

(a) Add the following text at the end of the ninth preambular paragraph of part A, general:

"and in this connection, bearing in mind the Programme of Action of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Agenda 21, and the Programme of Action of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,";

(b) Insert the following after the words "Organization of Eastern Caribbean States" in the third preambular paragraph of part B, draft resolution 9 relating to the United States Virgin Islands:

"and the Association of Caribbean States,".

21. Following an exchange of views in which the representatives of Tunisia, Grenada, India, Trinidad and Tobago, Sierra Leone and the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as the Chairman, participated (A/AC.109/PV.1432), the Special Committee decided to accept the amendment to the ninth preambular paragraph of part A, general (see para. 20 (a)).

22. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to continue consideration of the consolidated draft resolution, as amended, at a subsequent meeting.

23. At the 1437th meeting, on 14 July, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago withdrew her delegation's oral amendment to the third preambular paragraph of part B, draft resolution 9, relating to the United States Virgin Islands (see para. 20 (b)).

24. At the same meeting, the representative of Grenada proposed the following oral amendment to the consolidated draft resolution, part A, general, ninth preambular paragraph, as orally amended:

Add at the end of the paragraph:

"and the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,".

25. Following an exchange of views in which the representatives of Chile, Grenada, the Congo, India and Sierra Leone, as well as the Chairman participated (A/AC.109/PV.1437), the Special Committee decided to hold consultations, to seek a formula acceptable to all, and to continue consideration of the ninth preambular paragraph, as amended, at a subsequent meeting.

26. Also at the 1437th meeting, the Secretary of the Committee replied to questions posed to him by the representatives of the Congo and Chile (A/AC.109/PV.1437).

27. At the 1439th meeting, on 15 July, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago, on the basis of related consultations with the members of the Special Committee, submitted a further oral amendment to the ninth preambular paragraph of part A, general, as orally amended (see para. 20 (a)).

28. The proposed amendment would replace that amendment adopted by the Special Committee at its 1432nd meeting (see para. 21) by the following:

"and, in this connection, bearing in mind deliberations in all related international conferences including the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, at which Agenda 21 was adopted, 2/ the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,".

29. At its 1439th meeting, the Special Committee took the following action on the above-mentioned amendment and the consolidated draft resolution as a whole:

(a) The Committee adopted the oral amendment to the ninth preambular paragraph of part A, general, as orally amended, without objection;

(b) The Committee adopted the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance (A/AC.109/L.1815) and approved the consolidated draft resolution contained therein, as orally amended, without objection (A/AC.109/2002) (see para. 34).

30. On 21 July 1994, the texts of the decisions concerning Pitcairn (A/AC.109/2000) and St. Helena (A/AC.109/2001) were transmitted to the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations for the attention of his Government.

31. Also on 21 July 1994, copies of the consolidated resolution (A/AC.109/2002) were transmitted to the Permanent Representative of New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States, the administering Powers concerned, from the attention of their Governments.

C. Decision of the Special Committee

32. The Special Committee, by adopting the proposal of the Expanded Bureau at its 1432nd meeting, on 11 July 1994, decided to suspend consideration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands until its 1995 session (see para. 18).

33. The texts of the decisions (A/AC.109/2000 and A/AC.109/2001) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1432nd meeting, on 11 July 1994, as well as of the consolidated resolution (A/AC.109/2002), adopted at its 1439th meeting, on 15 July 1994 (see paras. 34 and 35), appear under section D, in the form of recommendations of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

D. Recommendations of the Special Committee

34. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1429th and 1434th meetings, on 15 February and 12 July 1994, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

CONSOLIDATED DRAFT RESOLUTION

Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, 3/

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, those resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles which should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of those Territories, in view of the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000,

Noting the decision of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as administering Power to effect a policy change aimed at enhancing its relations with its Caribbean dependent Territories,

Noting with satisfaction the participation of New Zealand in the work of the Special Committee,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation and, in this connection, bearing in mind deliberations in all related international conferences including the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, at which Agenda 21 was adopted, 2/ the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Aware of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Expressing its conviction that referendums and other forms of popular consultation on the future status of the Non-Self-Governing Territories are an appropriate means of ascertaining the wishes of the peoples in those Territories with regard to their future political status,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide the most effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to those Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

Bearing in mind the fragile economy of the small Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and recalling General Assembly resolutions and the report of the United Nations regional seminar on decolonization held in 1993 in connection with the Plan of Action of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, as well as the position taken by the territorial Governments, contained in the report of the seminar, 4/

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands;

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of those Territories to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. Reaffirms also that it is ultimately for the people of those Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, in that connection, calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to

facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination, in conformity with the legitimate political status options clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV);

4. Reiterates that it is the responsibility of the administering Powers to create such conditions in the Territories as will enable their people to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence;

5. Calls upon the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as an administering Power, to give due consideration to any proposals made by the Territories under its administration in the framework of its review of policy and management of its Caribbean dependent Territories, as well as of any future policy changes affecting them;

6. Requests the administering Powers to encourage and to facilitate the participation of elected representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration and other appropriate authorities or personalities duly mandated by those representatives in the work of the Special Committee and its Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, as well as in the work of the Committee's seminars;

7. Reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way serve as a pretext to delay the speedy exercise by the peoples of those Territories of their inalienable right to self-determination;

8. Reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of those Territories, and recommends that priority should continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

9. Urges the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments concerned, to take or continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to own, develop or dispose of the natural resources of those Territories, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources;

10. Also urges the administering Powers to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

11. Calls upon the administering Powers to continue to take all necessary measures, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other offences;

12. Urges the administering Powers to foster or continue to foster close relations between the Territories and other island communities in their respective regions, and to promote cooperation between the respective

territorial Governments and regional institutions, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system;

13. Also urges the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in its work by providing timely and up-to-date information for each Territory under their administration, in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter, and by facilitating the dispatch of visiting missions to the Territories to secure firsthand information thereon and to ascertain the wishes and aspirations of the inhabitants;

14. Appeals to the administering Powers to continue or to resume their participation in future meetings and activities of the Special Committee and to ensure the participation in the work of the Special Committee of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

15. Urges Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to achieve the eradication of colonialism by the year 2000, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the action of the Special Committee towards the attainment of that objective;

16. Invites the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories;

17. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in formulating their assistance programmes, to take due account of the text entitled "Challenges and opportunities: a strategic framework", which was adopted unanimously by the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations; 5/

18. Requests the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

Resolutions on specific conditions prevailing in American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands

I. American Samoa

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United States of America, as the administering Power,]

Noting that efforts are currently aimed at increasing the production of food crops for local consumption in American Samoa,

Taking note of the efforts by the Governor to reduce government spending and the Territory's budget deficit,

Noting that American Samoa is the only Territory of the United States of America in which employers are allowed to pay workers less than the mainland minimum wage,

Noting also that the Territory continues to experience a shortage of qualified medical personnel,

Aware that one third of the population is dependent on village-based water systems which often lack basic sanitary conditions,

Recalling the dispatch in 1981 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to promote the economic and social development of the Territory in order to alleviate its financial problems;

2. Calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with relevant regional and international institutions, to assist the Territory in increasing its agricultural output;

3. Urges the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to ensure that the salaries paid to employees are on a par with the cost of living in the Territory;

4. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to assist in alleviating the shortage of medical personnel in the Territory;

5. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to extend to the whole population of the Territory adequate water services with appropriate sanitary conditions and, in this framework, to study the feasibility of making the Government's central water system available to all;

6. Notes that a period of thirteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission as early as possible.

II. Anguilla

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,]

Aware that Anguilla's educational system is facing severe problems, including overcrowding, insufficient equipment and supplies in the schools, as well as a high percentage of undertrained teachers and the loss of teachers to the private sector and to other parts of the civil service,

Aware also of the inability of Anguilla's educational system to alleviate the problem of scarcity of skilled national personnel, particularly in the fields of economic management and tourism, and that educational reform is of paramount importance to the achievement of the long-term economic goals of the Territory,

Noting that the Government is placing great emphasis on manpower development and training,

Noting also that the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme for 1991-1995 is expected to be financed by external donors through grants and concessional loans,

Aware that the exploitation of deep-sea resources would help reduce the risk of depleting the Territory's own fishing resources as a result of overfishing,

Recalling the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory in 1984,

1. Requests the administering Power, in considering, adopting and/or implementing policy decisions likely to affect its dependent Territories, to continue to grant the highest attention to the interests, needs and wishes of the territorial Government and the people of Anguilla;

2. Calls upon national, regional and international institutions specializing in the field of education to grant Anguilla funds and equipment, and to make available to the Territory teacher training courses, to enable it to overcome its educational problems;

3. Also calls upon all countries, institutions and organizations endowed with expertise in manpower training to grant Anguilla assistance in this field;

4. Invites the international donor community to contribute generously to the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme for 1991-1995, and to grant the Territory all possible assistance to enable it to reach the main development objectives established by the Executive Council of the Territory;

5. Requests all countries and organizations with deep-sea fishing experience to facilitate the acquisition by the Territory's fishing sector of larger boats and fishing equipment, and to provide the Territory's fishermen with deep-sea fishing training programmes;

6. Notes that a period of ten years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

III. Bermuda

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,]

Bearing in mind the general elections held in the Territory in November 1993 and the proposed referendum on Bermuda's independence to be held in 1994,

Noting the negative effects of the international recession on Bermuda's economy,

Noting also the recent review of the criminal justice system in the Territory,

Noting with concern the incidence of crime in the secondary schools and noting also the planned restructuring of the public school system,

Expressing the view that the removal of military bases and installations from the Territory could expedite the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Noting that the Territory has never been visited by a United Nations visiting mission,

1. Expresses the view that the referendum on the future status of Bermuda is an appropriate means for the people of the Territory to decide their own future;

2. Notes with satisfaction that the economy of the Territory has begun to recover and that the territorial Government continues to place emphasis on the general good management of the economy of Bermuda;

3. Calls upon the administering Power to ensure that the criminal justice system is fair to all inhabitants of the Territory;

4. Takes note of the plans of the territorial Government to restructure the entire educational system with a view to facilitating wider access to higher education and to training more Bermudian students in the skills required to satisfy the employment needs of the Territory;

5. Takes note of the decision by Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to close their respective military bases in Bermuda in 1995;

6. Again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory as early as possible.

IV. British Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,]

Noting the request of the Territory for a review of its Constitution and noting also the appointment by the administering Power of the Constitutional Review Commission,

Noting further the measures taken by the territorial Government to develop the agricultural, industrial, educational and communications sectors,

Taking note of the desire of the Territory for membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other regional and international organizations,

Noting that the Territory's unmet manpower requirements continue to be a critical constraint to its economic growth,

Recognizing the measures being taken by the territorial Government to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. Requests the administering Power to take into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Territory in connection with the constitutional review;

2. Also requests the administering Power and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in order to enable it to mitigate the effects of the international economic recession and to pursue its development programmes;

3. Reiterates its call upon the administering Power to facilitate the admission of the Territory to associate membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as its participation in other regional and international organizations;

4. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to continue its technical assistance to the British Virgin Islands, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external economic factors and the scarcity of skilled workers in the Territory;

5. Also calls upon all countries and organizations with expertise in the development of skilled labour to assist the territorial Government in every possible way in the implementation of its educational and manpower training programmes;

6. Notes with satisfaction the measures being taken by the territorial Government to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering, and urges the administering Power to continue its assistance to the Territory in those endeavours;

7. Notes that a period of eighteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

V. Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,]

Noting that the amended Constitution was brought into force in the Cayman Islands on 1 February 1994,

Aware of the economic priorities established by the territorial Government,

Noting that there is an urgent need for the training of nationals in the technical, vocational, managerial and professional fields,

Noting also the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation of the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting further the Territory's dependence on imported agricultural products,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the territorial Government, the Governments of other countries of the region and the administering Power to prevent and repress illicit activities such as money laundering, funds smuggling, false invoicing and other related frauds, as well as the use of and trafficking in illegal drugs,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Requests the administering Power to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its economic aims;

2. Urges the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

3. Calls upon the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to promote the agricultural development of the Cayman Islands;

4. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue and increase their programmes of assistance to the Territory with a view to strengthening, developing and diversifying its economy;

5. Calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to counter problems related to money laundering, funds smuggling and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

6. Notes that a period of seventeen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

VI. Guam

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United States of America, as the administering Power,]

Recalling that in a referendum held in Guam in 1987, the people of Guam endorsed a draft Commonwealth Act which would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power providing internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the indigenous Chamorro people to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware of the continued negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory, with particular emphasis on the questions of the evolution of the relationship between the United States of America and Guam, self-determination of the Chamorro people and participation of Guam in international organizations,

Noting the appointment on 3 November 1993 by the administering Power of a Special Representative for Guam Commonwealth Issues,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for a reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough and expeditious transfer of property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Noting with concern the escalating crime rate in the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Calls upon the administering Power to continue to conduct expeditiously its negotiations with the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory;

2. Expresses the hope that the appointment by the administering Power of a Special Representative for Guam Commonwealth Issues would facilitate the ongoing discussions on the political status of Guam;

3. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to expedite the transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to safeguard their property rights;

4. Also requests the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the

Chamorro people and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the immigration issue;

5. Further requests the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities;

6. Urges the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in crime prevention;

7. Notes that a period of fifteen years has elapsed since the last United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

VII. Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,]

Taking note of the position of the territorial Government that, while independence is both desirable and inevitable, it should be preceded by economic and financial viability sufficient to sustain Montserrat as an independent State,

Expressing concern at the high incidence of drug trafficking and money laundering in the Territory,

Taking into account the membership of Montserrat in regional and international bodies and the outstanding request of the Territory for readmission to associate membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Aware of the Government's policy to continue to train and develop local human resources,

Aware also of the Government's policy to achieve optimal self-sufficiency in food production within five years,

Recalling that the last United Nations Visiting Mission to the Territory took place in 1982,

1. Requests the administering Power to work towards promoting the economic and social development of the Territory with a view to its attaining self-determination and independence;

2. Notes the expressed preference of the territorial Government for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States;

3. Requests the administering Power, competent regional and international organizations, as well as countries in a position to do so, to grant the Government of Montserrat every assistance it requires to achieve its stated goal

of improving the efficiency and productivity of the public service through training at all levels;

4. Reiterates its call upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to take, as a matter of urgency, the necessary steps to facilitate the readmission of Montserrat as an associate member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

5. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other multilateral financial institutions, to continue to expand their assistance to the Territory in the strengthening, development and diversification of the economy of Montserrat in accordance with its medium- and long-term development plans;

6. Urges the administering Power to continue its assistance to the Territory in the prevention of drug trafficking and money laundering;

7. Notes that a period of twelve years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of a visiting mission to Montserrat as early as possible.

VIII. Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power,]

Noting recent changes to the Constitution of the Territory and the intention of the territorial Government to continue to campaign for further constitutional changes,

Noting also the different views expressed by the elected representatives of the Turks and Caicos Islands on the question of the future status of the Territory,

Aware of the decision of the administering Power to implement a policy change aimed at establishing better dialogue, coordination and cooperation between itself and its Caribbean dependent Territories,

Noting the emergency measures taken by the territorial Government to cut budget deficit and government spending,

Noting also the commitment of the territorial Government to reform the public service to achieve greater efficiency and to implement its policy of localization of employment,

Noting further the Government's expressed need for development assistance to achieve its stated goal of economic independence by the year 1996,

Noting also the Government's decision to establish an Investment Bank in order to attract substantial investments world wide for much needed projects,

Noting further that 90 per cent of the food consumed in the Territory is imported, and that the Government has exerted efforts to improve the agriculture and fisheries sectors,

Aware of the Government's efforts to develop a management plan to control all marine resources exploitation,

Aware also of the Government's tourism policy to establish national standards for the tourism industry,

Noting the number of unqualified teachers and the number of expatriate staff in the educational system of the Territory,

Noting with interest the statement made and the information provided by an elected member of the Territory's Legislative Council in March 1993 to the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance on the overall political, economic and social situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands,

1. Reiterates that it is ultimately for the people of the Territory themselves to determine their own future through the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence;

2. Invites the administering Power, in implementing policy changes concerning its dependent Territories, to continue to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and people of the Turks and Caicos Islands;

3. Calls upon the territorial Government to continue to promote alternative employment opportunities for those civil servants whose employment will be terminated as a result of the public service reform and the planned reduction of employees in the service;

4. Also calls upon the Government to initiate a comprehensive training programme to ensure that the employment of expatriates in the Territory's labour force is not prejudicial to the recruitment of suitably qualified and available islanders;

5. Calls upon the specialized agencies and other institutions of the United Nations system to explore concrete ways of assisting the Turks and Caicos Government to reach its stated goal of achieving economic independence by 1996;

6. Notes with satisfaction the increase in aid, particularly financial assistance, granted to the territorial Government by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and invites the latter to maintain this level of assistance;

7. Calls upon all national, regional, interregional and international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to take all necessary steps to assist the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the establishment and/or operation of its Investment Bank;

8. Urges the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to assist the territorial Government in increasing the efficiency of the agricultural and fisheries sectors;

9. Also urges the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the problem of environmental pollution and degradation;

10. Calls upon all countries and organizations with experience in the training of teachers to extend generous assistance to the Territory in this field, with particular emphasis on the training of its nationals;

11. Draws the attention of the administering Power to the statement made and the information provided in March 1993 to the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance by the elected member of the Territory's Legislative Council on the political, economic and social situation in the Territory;

12. Notes that a period of fourteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

IX. United States Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

[Having heard the statement of the representative of the United States of America, as the administering Power,]

Bearing in mind the results of the referendum on political status held in the Territory on 11 October 1993,

Noting also the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community, and its inability, for financial reasons, to participate in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization,

Aware of serious fiscal problems of the territorial Government and of the measures being implemented by the territorial Government to decrease the budget deficit,

Noting the necessity to further diversify the Territory's economy,

Noting also that the question of the transfer of Water Island to the Territory is still under consideration,

Noting further that in 1993, the territorial Government purchased the assets of the West Indian Company which had significant property and development interests in the Charlotte Amalie Harbour,

Noting with concern the escalating crime rate in the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Reiterates its request to the administering Power to facilitate as appropriate the participation of the Territory in the Organization of Eastern

Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community, as well as in various international and regional organizations in accordance with the policy of the administering Power and the terms of reference of such organizations;

2. Requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in its efforts to balance the budget and to diversify the Territory's economy;

3. Invites the administering Power, as a matter of urgency, to facilitate the transfer of Water Island to the territorial Government;

4. Takes note of the purchase by the territorial Government of the assets in the Territory of the West Indian Company;

5. Requests the administering Power to continue to assist the Territory in crime prevention;

6. Notes that a period of seventeen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

35. The Special Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Question of Pitcairn

The General Assembly, having examined the situation in Pitcairn, reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which fully applies to the Territory. The Assembly further reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. The Assembly urges the administering Power to continue to respect the very individual lifestyle that the people of the Territory have chosen and to preserve, promote and protect it. The Assembly requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of Pitcairn at its next session and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

DRAFT DECISION II

Question of St. Helena

1. The General Assembly, having examined the question of St. Helena, reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960. The Assembly urges the administering Power to continue to take, in consultation with the Legislative Council and other representatives of the people of St. Helena, all necessary steps to ensure the speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of promoting an awareness among the people of St. Helena of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination.

2. The General Assembly reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to continue, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to strengthen the economy, to encourage local initiative and enterprise and to increase its assistance to diversification programmes with the aim of improving the general welfare of the community, including the employment situation in the Territory.

3. The General Assembly urges the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources.

4. The General Assembly reaffirms that continued development assistance from the administering Power, together with any assistance that the international community might be able to provide, constitutes an important means of developing the economic potential of the Territory and of enhancing the capacity of its people to realize fully the goals set forth in the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly, in that connection, welcomes the assistance rendered by the United Nations Development Programme and invites other organizations of the United Nations system to assist in the development of the Territory.

5. The continued presence of military facilities in the Territory prompts the General Assembly, on the basis of previous United Nations resolutions and decisions concerning military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, to urge the administering Power to take measures to avoid the involvement of the Territory in any action that could endanger peace and security in neighbouring States.

6. The General Assembly considers that the possibility of dispatching a United Nations visiting mission to St. Helena at an appropriate time should be kept under review, and requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of St. Helena at its next session and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77, and A/47/86.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8), resolution 1, annex II.

3/ The present chapter.

4/ A/AC.109/1159.

5/ A/CONF.147/5-TD/B/AC.46/4.